NOTES AND NEWS.

The Thirteenth Annual Congress of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held in Washington, beginning on the evening of Monday, November 11, 1895, which session will be devoted to the election of officers and members and the transaction of the usual routine business. Tuesday and the following days will be given to public sessions for the reading and discussion of scientific papers. Members intending to present papers are requested to forward the titles of their papers to the Secretary, Mr. John H. Sage, Portland, Conn., prior to November 6, in order to facilitate the preparation of the program of papers to be read before the Congress.

Prof. L. L. Dyche, who accompanied the ill-fated 'Miranda' expedition of 1894 as naturalist, has passed the entire summer of 1895 on the Greenland coast. Professor Dyche sailed from Gloucester, Mass., in May on a fishing schooner which landed him at Holsteinburg, West Greenland. He was picked up here July 15 by the members of the Peary Relief Expedition, on board the S. S. 'Kite,' and with them proceeded to Peary's headquarters in Whale Sound. News has just been received of the safe return of the expedition to St. John's, Newfoundland, Professor Dyche having, it is reported, been very successful in gathering large collections of mammals and birds.

Mr. R. A. Bray, writing in 'Nature,' records a remarkable flight of birds observed by him through a telescope directed toward the sun, at 3 P. M., on September 30, 1894, at Shere, Guilford, England. Every few seconds a bird would pass slowly across the sun, and there was no decrease in their numbers during the ten minutes of observation. The birds were flying in a southerly direction and were invisible to the naked eye, but must have been at least two or three miles away, as both birds and sun were in focus. This is a phase of migration which seems to have previously escaped attention and suggests the probability of a more extended diurnal movement than we at present know of.

It is encouraging to note not alone the increase in quantity but the improvement in quality of the ornithological literature which appears in our magazines. 'Our Animal Friends,' the monthly journal of the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is especially advanced in this respect, each number containing one or more original articles on birds generally accompanied by illustrations.

At a recent sale in London an egg of the Great Auk from the collection of the Comte de Baracé, said to have been taken in Iceland about 1830, brought 165 guineas.